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RAD

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RAD COMMITTEE GETS NEVADA COUNTY A RECREATIONAL RESERVOIR

There's a new lake in dry Nevada and it opened to boaters, water skiers and fishermen this summer.

The 60-acre Eagle Canyon Reservoir is attracting added tourist income to Lincoln County and providing new areas for recreational development along its shores.



People in Lincoln County had wanted an artificial lake for many years but kept running into obstacles. In 1962 they turned their problem over to the local RAD committee.

The RAD committee suggested an irrigation company organize to unite water users of the area. But a series of investigations conducted jointly with Federal agencies showed irrigational development wasn't practical.

The committee then looked into the project for its recreational potential. A State engineer and ex-president of the RAD committee developed cost and feasibility studies. The studies along with the irrigation company's endorsement, won the support of the State Fish and Game Commission.

The State Fish and Game Commission was given a \$75,000 Accelerated Public Works grant. The RAD committee approached the county to see if it would put up funds. The commissioners secured an emergency \$50,000 loan. Then the RAD committee asked the Max C. Fleischman Foundation to match county funds with a grant. They did better than that, they gave \$100,980 to the project. The State Game and Fish Commission produced \$16,000.

Construction on the project started in fall, 1964 and was completed in 1965. The State Park Commission built a \$2,270 boat ramp on the lake with motor boat fuel tax receipts. Now the county will maintain the reservoir with professional supervision by the Park Commission.

FHA SURVEYS OPERATORS OF RECREATION ENTERPRISES

Profits from outdoor recreational facilities tend to go up with the number of activities offered, but operators still report plenty of problems.

A Farmers Home Administration survey of people who had borrowed money to start outdoor recreation businesses showed the average income from multiple recreation facilities was \$4,400. Average income single recreational enterprises, excluding golfing facilities, was \$2,550. Income from golfing facilities like driving ranges, pitch and put courses and 18-hole golf courses, ranged from \$650 to \$50,000.

People with more experience in the recreation business tended to earn more. However, both the experienced and inexperienced reported difficulties with advertising. They were either surprised at its high cost or unable to use it effectively to increase business.

Bad weather, poor fishing or hunting conditions and competition from free facilities in the vicinity also cut into some incomes. Some farmers had difficulty when the peak recreation demand coincided with the busiest time of the farming season.

One of the most important things the recreation business operator discovered was "service with a smile" attracts repeat customers.

ALFALFA PELLETIZING CO-OP SOLVES MINNESOTA FARMERS CROP PROBLEMS

When grain crops failed four out of five years, farmers in Pennington County, Minnesota began switching to alfalfa. They were soon growing more than they could feed their livestock then they discovered that hay shipping costs were so high that profits on the excess production were marginal.

The local RAD committee went to work to explore the possibility of an alfalfa dehydrating plant. The idea was abandoned as unfeasible.

The county agent worked with committee members on the possibility of pelletizing their alfalfa. He took them on tours of pelletizing and feed processing plants, and to the University of Minnesota and North Dakota State University to talk to experts on the subject.

Pelletizing permitted mechanized feeding and reduced shipping costs by more than half.



A \$150,000 FHA loan plus \$25,000 raised by area farmers who bought shares provided funds to build the cooperative pelletizing plant. The new plant will provide 15 jobs, and increase the farmers incomes by providing an outlet for their best crop.

NEW GREENSPAN PROJECTS APPROVED

The Department of Agriculture's new Greenspan program is rapidly picking up speed. Eight new projects have been approved in Iowa, New York, Ohio and Utah. Additional projects have been submitted for approval.

The Greenspan program is part of the Cropland Adjustment Program to shift land producing crops in plentiful supply to use for recreational and open space purposes. Federal grants for Greenspan projects cannot exceed 50 percent of the cost of the land and are usually less.

Clayton County, Iowa, will have nature trails and picnic and sports areas. Elk Horn, Iowa, residents will have a new swimming pool they financed themselves. It will be built on Greenspan land and will be part of a picnic and recreation complex. Webster County, Iowa, will add a new golf course to the county park, and Carroll, Iowa, will build a municipal golf course on its Greenspan land. Dubuque, Iowa, plans to build a

city park with an outdoor civic stage, recreation facilities, camp grounds, nature trails and wildlife pond. The 206 acres cost \$50,000. The Federal grant was \$17,449.10.



Clinton City, Utah, celebrated the start of their Greenspan project on August 10, when a USDA official presented the Mayor with a \$3,764.87 check to help meet the \$15,411.18 cost of 17 acres. The cropland will be converted to playgrounds, ball diamonds, tree-shaded picnic grounds and other recreational facilities.

Greenfield, Ohio will convert its 30 acres of farmland to grass for preservation of open space and for future recreational use. A \$2,506.35 USDA grant helped with the \$30,000 cost of the land.

Bath, New York plans to build nature trails and a pond for wildlife on the 14 acres of farmland it purchased for \$1,400. The USDA grant was \$437.02 with an additional \$930 cost-share assistance to help build the pond.

OVER 17,000 RURAL FAMILIES AIDED IN PAST YEAR

About 17,000 rural families were started on the road out of poverty with Economic Opportunity loans made in fiscal year 1966, Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman announced.

The Farmers Home Administration made 17,073 loans totaling \$27,264,266 to low income rural families to provide the tools, supplies, and working space they needed to earn a better living.

Most of the families have been existing on less than \$1,500 a year. Their common handicap has been lack of money or credit to equip themselves for more profitable work.

Studies indicate that families that have received such loans have increased their gross family income an average of \$2,800 a year for those starting non-agricultural enterprises, and \$900 a year for families using Economic Opportunity loans to improve their farming methods.

RURAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION FORMED

A group of Illinois rural recreation business owners and operators have formed the Association of Illinois Rural Recreation Enterprises. Members believe this will give them an opportunity to exchange ideas on how to meet the public demand for more and better recreational facilities. They will encourage and promote programs that will improve rural recreation projects.

TOURIST PERSONNEL TRAINED IN CAPE COD

The lengthening tourist season at many resort areas like Cape Cod, Massachusetts, has forced resort owners to hire local people to fill personnel vacancies left by students returning to college.

To train local people to be good cooks, bakers, waitresses, mechanics and other vocations needed by the tourist industry, resort owners and the Extension Service in Barnstable County, Massachusetts set up special schools.

A six-month course for cooks and bakers and inboard-outboard motor repairmen was conducted under the Manpower Development and Training Act. Sixty cooks and bakers and almost sixty mechanics have been graduated.

About 75 waitresses were trained by the State Department of Vocational Education



The demand for trained personnel has been so great that many people were hired before they complete their courses. Service at resorts has improved, increasing their appeal to tourists. And underemployed residents now have skills that are in demand.

NEW RC&D PROJECTS APPROVED

Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman has authorized the Department of Agriculture to aid four new Rural Conservation and Development Projects in Arkansas, Kentucky, Maine and Oklahoma.

A former strip mine will be turned into a golf course and recreation area in Arkansas, erosion control will be practiced in the potato lands in Maine, there will be industrial expansion in Oklahoma, and strip mined areas will be reclaimed in Kentucky.



Conservation measures and watershed development to provide recreational areas and to improve the general economy will be practiced in all project areas.

Arkansas River Valley RC&D project covers Crawford, Franklin, Johnson, Logan, Pope, Scott, Sebastian and Yell counties. The St. John-Aroostook project in Maine covers 2.7 million acres in Aroostook and Penobscot counties.

The Cherokee Hills RC&D project in Oklahoma covers three counties--Adair, Cherokee, and Delaware--in the heart of the Ozark Highlands. Six counties in western Kentucky are included in the Tradewater River Area RC&D project--Caldwell, Christian, Crittenden, Hopkins, Union and Webster.

NEWS BRIEFS

. . . Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman said projections indicate 1966 net farm income will be \$1.5 billion higher than 1965.

. . . Secretary Freeman said 391 Economic Opportunity loans totaling \$4,708,461.50 were made to rural cooperatives in fiscal year 1966.

. . . A change in the Social Security law will make about 94,000 rural Americans who have never made Social Security payments and who will be 72 or over in October, 1966, eligible for a \$35 monthly stipend. Eligible couples will get \$52.50 a month. If they are not registered for Medicare, older people should contact a Social Security office now.

. . . About 18,000 acres of lakes, woods and shoreline, within a day's drive of Chicago, Milwaukee, Madison, Wisconsin and Duluth, Minnesota was added to the Ottawa National Forest in Michigan's Upper Peninsula on August 4. The U. S. Department of Agriculture bought the land under the Land and Water Conservation Funds Act of 1964.

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